

CLAIMS

- 1 A method of forming a hollow structure having an internal coating comprising the steps of placing a core shaped to form the internal surface of the structure in a mould, filling the mould with a material powder, hot isostatically pressing the powder about the mould to consolidate the powder, and removing the core from the hollow structure formed, wherein a coating is applied to the core prior to placement in the mould, which coating bonds to the hollow structure formed, during the hot isostatic pressing, to form the internal coating.
- 2 A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the coating applied to the core comprises a first coating applied to the core and a second coating applied over the first coating.
- 3 A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the first coating is a ceramic coating and the second coating is a bond coating, such that the coating as a whole preferentially bonds to the powder consolidated about the core during the hot isostatic pressing process.
- 4 A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the second coating comprises a MCrAlY bond coat.
- 5 A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the second coating comprises a ceramic-metal mix bond coat, the proportions of metal in the coating varying from about 0% at the surface of the core to about 100% at the coating extremity.
- 6 A method of forming a hollow structure as claimed in claim 1 wherein the core is made of mild steel and its removal is effected by use of a chemical agent.
- 7 A method for creating a hollow structure as described hereinbefore and with reference to the accompanying drawings.

- 8 A core for use in the manufacture of a hollow component having an internal coating, wherein the core is provided with an external coating which bonds to the hollow component during the manufacturing process, such that removal of the core leaves the external coating applied to the hollow component.
- 9 A core as claimed in claim 8 wherein the coating is adapted to preferentially bond to a powdered material which is consolidated about the core by a hot isostatic pressing process during the manufacturing process.
- 10 A core substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.